



Learning for Life

MINERVA SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Eton Street SUTHERLAND NSW 2232 Telephone: 9521 3433 Fax: 9545 3316 E-mail: minerva-s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
WEBSITE: www.minerva-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

DATES TO REMEMBER TERM 3 2014

AUGUST

Thursday 14th
Work Experience

Begins

SEPTEMBER

Friday 5th
*Father's Day Raffle
& Gift Stall*

Tuesday 9th
*Combined Schools
Athletics Carnival*

Friday 19th
*Term ends
Last day of school
for students and
staff*

TERM 4 OCTOBER

Tuesday 7th
*Staff and Students
return for Term 4*

**Wednesday
15th**
Vaccinations

Tuesday 21st
School Photos



NAIDOC Week

Why do we celebrate?

NAIDOC Week is held in the first full week of July. It is a time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and an opportunity to recognise the contributions that Indigenous Australians make to our country and our society.



Minerva School Captain, Jayden opens the assembly with the acknowledgement to country and a NAIDOC speech.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone. Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me to Minerva this term. It's been a pleasure to get to know the staff & students. I am learning that Minerva is a very interesting place with lots of different types of learning taking place. In my previous job I supported the school with the development of a learning and support team. I am also hopeful that I can assist the staff with the implementation of Positive Behaviour Intervention Strategies (PBIS) & some Restorative Practices. These policies and practices will further support the academic, social and behavioural needs of students, whilst providing best practice

WELCOME

We welcome 2 new students and their families to the Minerva School Community, Jack W and James H.

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT 2013

The Annual School Report for 2013 is now available for viewing on the School Website. If you would like a copy please contact the Office.

NOTES

All School Notes and Class Excursion notes will now be available for viewing on the School Website. Paper copies of the notes will still be sent home via your child. We have included this information on our school website as part of the feed back we received from parents when completing the Communication Survey in Term 1.

SENSORY GARDEN

There has been further progress to the Sensory Garden project. Our hard working P&C have been busy co-ordinating with artist Sam Shennan, who has generously donated his time and talent, to paint this

beautiful mural at Minerva School. Thank you also to Carly from Bunnings Kirrawee who donated the boards and paint. We are very grateful!

Artist Sam & our very own Minerva Sam!



P & C

We welcome to the P&C Committee, Barbara Ward - President and Debra Hunt - Treasurer with Tracey Youssef and Jade Kenyon as General Committee members. I look forward to working with them. The next P&C meeting will be on Monday 27th October at 9.30am in my office. You are all welcome.

Family Planning Information Session

Family Planning NSW are holding an information session at Bates Drive School for parents/carers to assist in providing basic sexuality education to children with intellectual disability. A letter will be sent home with your child and there is also a copy in this newsletter.

Corinne Feldmann
Relieving Principal

NAIDOC Week continued

Students participated in an art lesson celebrating aboriginal culture, connection to each other, indigenous colours and craft ideas.

Designing, making...



Weaving, collaborating

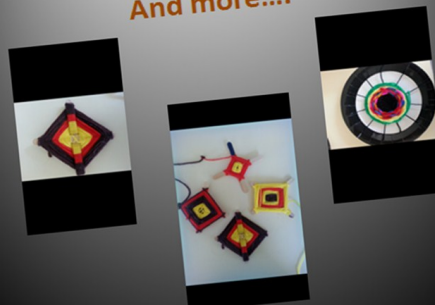


Together we learn about Australia's history and the significance of our indigenous people.

This is what we made...



And more....





CLASS Z

Class Z have been celebrating many birthdays this past month. Jake A turned 16. He enjoyed sharing his birthday party with the school captains at Minerva. Thank you for joining Class Z for the party, Jake W and Jayden H.



Class Z shared their show and tell at this week's assembly. Every Thursday Class Z watches ABC's **Behind the News Program**. This week we decided to write our own news report. At assembly we dressed up and presented our news item to the rest of the students at Minerva. This was Sebi Daltons' news report he shared at assembly.

'Every Wednesday Class D, Class A and Sebi D do sport with Adam from Kelly Sports. Sport is important because teenagers like to have fun. Sebi reports that he would like Adam to come to Minerva every day to play sport. Adam teaches Sebi D how to play Basketball'.



(Luke D sharing his news at assembly).

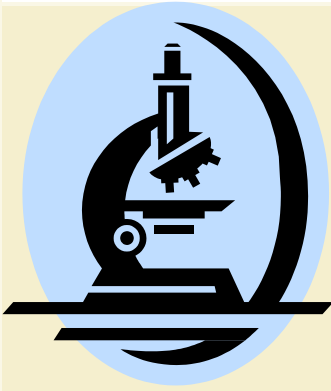


Class M love to cook!

We have cooking lessons every Thursday with Miss Sarah where we have been learning about food hygiene, healthy eating and the food groups.

Here are some pictures of us in action and what we have been creating in the kitchen!





CLASS D

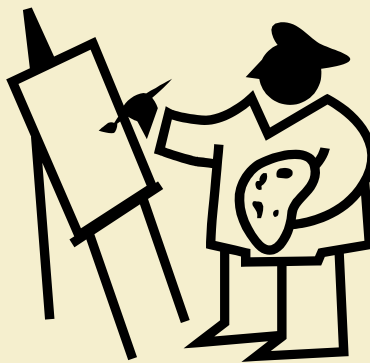
Class D have been enjoying conducting experiments during their Science lessons. They have been exploring the concepts of air pressure, gravity, molecule diffusion, inertia and sound waves.

We ask ourselves the question *"why is it so?"*



CLASS A

Class A have been looking at famous artworks throughout the ages. They have looked at works by Leonardo Da Vinci, Michaelangelo, Rembrandt and more recently the Impressionists and Post Impressionists. Here is Patrick nearing his completion of his impressionistic masterpiece.



The class has also been experiencing the silk screen printing process and learning to mix, create and identify colours by making colour wheels.

CLASS R

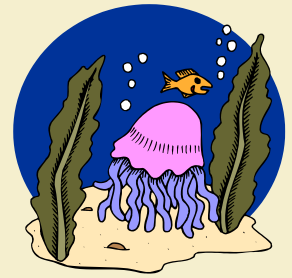


Kieran and
Nicholas enjoying
Sensory time



Class R boys have
been working on
Australia





Class N have been making jellyfish for their classroom display. Perry enjoys researching the jellyfish, Cooper and James love making them!

CLASS K

Class K have begun the D.E.A.R (drop everything and read) Program each afternoon





Class L have been learning about 'Seasons and Calendars' this term. We have learnt that the Earth spins around the sun and the Moon goes around the Earth.



SIBS DAY

The Department of Family and Community Services Ageing, Disability & Home Care are holding their siblings support group, "Sibs Day" in the Term 3 school holidays, Wednesday September 24 at Minerva School.

This day is for children aged 6—9 who have a sibling with an intellectual disability. It is a day for children to develop friendships with their peer group as well as provide a safe place for sharing feelings with these peers who have had similar experiences. It also aims to encourage the participants to develop and expand on their own coping strategies. There are lots of games and fun activities. This year the theme is "Harry Potter". It's always a fantastic day that the children thoroughly enjoy.

To register for Sibs Day simply fill in the registration form found on the following pages and send to Ageing Disability and Home Care PO Box 96 Hurstville BC, NSW 2220; alternatively contact Minerva School office and request a registration form.





What's a SIBS DAY?

A SIBS DAY is an opportunity for young people who have a brother or sister with an intellectual disability to make friends, have some fun and learn a few useful things along the way.

Who will be there?

Other **6-9 year olds** who have a brother or sister with an intellectual disability, guests, and ADHC staff.

When and Where is it?

Date: **Wednesday 24th September 2014**

Place: **Minerva School, Sutherland**

Times: **9am** registration for a 9:15am start
3:30pm finish

What to bring?

Hat, drink bottle and suitable footwear
Morning tea, and lunch will be provided

How much will it cost?

Nothing – it's free!



Further Information/Registration

Registration for the September School Holidays SIBS DAY is now open!

To register for the SIBS DAY simply fill in the registration form as enclosed with this flyer.

Registrations must be in by **15th September 2014**

You can post or scan/email the registration form to:

Ageing Disability and Home Care
PO Box 96
Hurstville BC, NSW, 2220

Email:

Leah.Piazza@facs.nsw.gov.au

Kate.Favetta@facs.nsw.gov.au

For more information
please call Kate or Leah

Ph: 9566 5000



Dear Participant Potter,

Thank you for accepting the offer to attend Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry on the 24/09/14.

Classes will commence at 9:00am

Your classes for this year will include:

- ♦ *Care for Magical Creatures*
- ♦ *Dealing with a Whomping Willow*
- ♦ *Potions*

Students are not permitted to bring broomsticks however you may bring cloaks and hats if you wish.

Classes will finish at 3:30pm.

Looking forward to meeting you soon.

Professor Minerva McGonagall

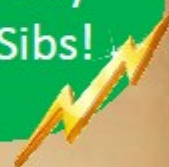
***Knowledge of the Harry Potter theme is not essential, everyone is welcome.*



Family &
Community Services
Ageing, Disability & Home Care



A Free
Fun Day
For Sibs!



HOGWARTS SCHOOL
OF WITCHCRAFT AND WIZARDRY
SIBLINGS DAY



HEADMASTER: ALBUS DUMBLEDORE OF ADHC

(Order of Merlin, First Class, Grand Sorc, Chf Warlock,
Supreme Mugwump, International Confed. of Wizards)

Dear Participant Potter

We are pleased to inform you that you have been invited to attend the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry Sibs Day for 6 to 9 year olds. It shall be taking place on Wednesday 24th September 2014 at precisely 9:00am, finishing at 3:30pm at Minerva School Sutherland. We await your owl *RSVP* by no later than September 15th. Parents are advised that participants are not allowed to bring their broomsticks but morning tea and lunch will be provided. To register or for more information please contact *Kate Favetta* or *Leah Piazza* on 95665000.

Yours Sincerely

Minerva McGonagall





Family & Community Services

Sibs Day "Harry Potter"

REGISTRATION FORM

(This information form must be completed for children participating in the Sibs Day program)

I am enrolling my child in Sibs Day for brothers and sisters of children with special needs being held on Wednesday 24 September 2014, from 9 am – 3 30 pm at Minerva School, Eton Street, Sutherland.

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Home address: _____

Home Phone No: _____ Alternate No: _____

Email: _____

Name of brother or sister with special needs: _____

Birth Date: _____ Age: _____ Gender: _____

Description of disability: _____

Photography consent:

Do we have your consent to take photographs of your child/ren to record the activities to promote similar events next year? A group photo will be forwarded to all participants after the Sibs Day as a memoir.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Child's dietary requirements:

☐ Gluten Free ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Halal ☐ food allergies? _____

Medical information:

It is very important for Sibs Day facilitators to have an understanding of any medical needs your child may have. Please advise if your child takes medication and for what reason; please list any medications they may need to bring with them on the day: _____

Personal and health information collected by the Department of Family and Community Services is covered by NSW Privacy legislation. For more information contact the ADHC privacy contact officer John Gaudin on (02) 9248 0836.

Disclaimer:

I am aware that my child will be participating in the ADHC Hurstville Office Sibs Day on 15 April 2014 at his/her own risk. While all care will be taken to address likely risks, Ageing, Disability & Home Care, Department of Family and Community Services will not be liable for any injury or damage however caused arising out of his/her participation in the event.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

PERSON TO CONTACT IN AN EMERGENCY

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Is there anything else important for us to know about your child (e.g. medical conditions, other)



Class C

Maths made fun with shells.



PILATES

FOR CARERS - 10.30AM THURSDAY

Are you a Carer who would like to try Pilates?



Benefits of Pilates:

- Stress relief through body awareness & breathing techniques.
- Create back support through abdominal, core based exercises.
- Stretches, strengthens & tones the whole body.

Please call Cheryl on 0417 417 217 as bookings are essential.
Cheryl is a Certified Pilates Instructor and Counsellor.

**SPECIAL FOR CARERS
ONLY \$10 PER CLASS**

Pilates classes are held at Carousel Counselling Services
13A Eton Street Sutherland

Ritchies Supermarket Community Benefit Program

Ritchies Supermarket at Taren Point run a Community Benefit Program whereby donations are made to a nominated School. Minerva School has been nominated by a few of their customers. So, spread the word to family and friends, to shop at Ritchies and get a community benefit card linked to our school. This is an easy way for family and friends to help support our school. Just use your card each time you shop at Ritchies and the store will donate to our School.

SPORT

Congratulations to Michael H who competed in the Sydney East Athletic Carnival on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of August at Sylvania Athletics track. His outstanding results are:

Shot: 1st place with a personal best throw of 7.52 metres.

Discus: 2nd Place

100m: 1st place

Michael was placed 1st in his age group and has been selected to compete in the CHS Athletic carnival to be held at Homebush later this month.

Well Done and
Congratulations Michael.

Michael was presented
with the Medallion for
Age Champion 16-19years
at our School Assembly.



15 August 2014

FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION SESSIONS.

Dear Parents/Carers

On 20th October, 2014 Family Planning will be holding two information sessions at Bates Drive School, Kareela for families.

Session 1 10am – 12pm

Session 2 5pm – 7pm

Light Refreshments will be served at each session.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Session Aim:

To increase parent/carer knowledge and confidence when providing basic sexuality education to children with intellectual disability.

Content:

What is sexuality?

Benefits of sexuality education

Supporting changes through puberty

Tips for talking about sexuality

Easy English resources including books, fact sheets, DVDs.

Family Planning NSW services (clinics, library, bookshop, Talkline)

Could you please complete the attached RSVP to indicate if you will be participating in either session and return it to Minerva School Office by Friday 22nd August, 2014?

Yours Sincerely

Corinne Feldmann
Relieving Principal

FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION SESSIONS.

Please tick the session you would like to attend. Partners and/or friends are welcome to attend.

I would like attend:-

☐ Session 1 10am – 12pm 20th October, 2014

☐ Session 2 5pm – 7pm 20th October, 2014

Name: _____

Number of people attending: _____

☐ I will not be attending either information sessions.